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The Evans & Grapevine

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IT'S TIME FOR -

August, the peak vacation month, is upon us, with other places, other climes calling, and many of us will answer that call, entrusting the garden to other hands for a time. Activities will no doubt be restricted to maintenance which should include careful deep watering, the constant war on pests, and plant grooming—removal of spent blossoms, seed pods, unruly growth, and the staking of Dahlias, Chrysanthemums and Carnations. However, many others will still be on the job in August and their garden program may be more ambitious—planning winter bloom and soil improvement.

Early-flowering Spencer SWEET PEAS sown now are an almost sure bet for Christmas bloom. Last season we watched a 30-foot row producing heavily from mid-December to the end of May! As with other winter-flowering annuals, the trick is an early start, giving sturdy, well-advanced plants by the time cool night temperatures begin.

Why not a bit of serious soil improvement? Reconditioned and raked to a fine tilth, you can live with it a few weeks, telling yourself the rest will benefit the crops to come. And maybe you'd like to make your own test of Krillium's virtues!

Two beautiful "tropicals" which will benefit by the time spent in the warm ground now are CALLIANDRA INAEQUILATERA.

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. . . LOVES ME, LOVES ME NOT . . .

For Big Affairs

There is in Mexico a curious small tree with huge leaves and a name in proportion to the size of the leaf—PODACHAE-NIUM EMINENS. This plant belongs to the same family as do the Marguerites, Chrysanthemums, and Dusty Millers, which is hard to imagine when one is standing in the shadow of this relative with its king-size foliage and almost frightening speed of growth. It shoots up six to eight (Continued on inside page)

Westward Ho!

One of the most traveled and little seen boulevards in Southern California is Sunset from Brentwood Village (Barrington) west to the beach. For the student in horticulture and for anyone who loves plants, this stretch of suburbia is worth a slow drive with frequent stops.

Near the middle of the first block on the right stands a fine looking apartment house unit well screened and shaded by fine old Olive trees underplanted with billowing masses of Xylosma senticosa used as a deep ground cover studded on the right and in the inner court with small trees of Psidium Cattleianum (Strawberry Guava), an extremely pleasant combination of bronzy greens beneath gray-green. Just west of Saltair on the same side gleam thin masses of fragrant bright yel-

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IT'S TIME FOR -

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and our recent introduction—the golden-flowered THEVETIA THEVETIODES. C. inaequilatera is the "pink powder puff" plant, a graceful billowing shrub or easy, informal espalier, with glossy green pinnate foliage, coppery when new, that is covered with large stameniferous watermelon-pink flowers through the winter.

Our sensational Thevetia, with its clear bright yellow flowers four inches across borne in clusters at the ends of slender-leaved branches, remains a rarity even in botanical gardens, but seems happy to make its home here in Southern California. A free-bloomer six months of the year, this regal relative of the common oleander will enrich your garden's color immeasurably. \$3 and \$6.

Plants to be set into your gardening as they bloom now include BOUGAINVILLEA in a half-dozen hues, \$1.50 to \$12.50; HIBISCUS in many colors, \$1.50 to \$4.50; TIBOUCHINA SEMIDECANDRA (large purple-flowering Princess Flower), 95 cents and \$3.75; ROSES, hybrid teas and floribundas, \$3.50; ENGLISH LAVENDER, 95 cents; white BOUVARDIA, ALBATROSS, \$1.25; ever-blooming purple POLYGALA DALMAISIANA, 85 cents; large, fragrant HELIOTROPE Black Beauty, 75 cents; VINCA ROSEA (Madagascar Periwinkle), 95 cents; and a specially selected strain of large, fully-double white flowering PETUNIAS in six-inch pots, \$1.

For the shade we suggest blue BRO-WALLIA, 20 cents; ANEMONE JAPON-ICA, in white, pink or red, 95 cents; vigorous flowering plants of TUBEROUS BEGONIAS, our own specialty, \$1; IM-PATIENS SULTANA, 50 and 85 cents; IMPATIENS OLIVERI, to five feet with pink blooms over two inches across, 85 cents; STREPTOCARPUS in vivid blues,

white and rose, 75 cents.

For an everchanging show of blossom, and fruit on a glossy-leafed evergreen shrub, OCHNA MULTIFLORA is a gem! In the summer masses of fragrant yellow flowers come and go, leaving the calyx. Its five sepals thicken and take on color until they resemble moulded bright red wax, and on this the fruits appear, first green, then jet black. This spectacle remains until the next wave of bloom. \$1.25.

And finally, a conversation piece for the house, fun for your next party, is MIMOSA PUDICA (Touch Me Not) which closes up

when touched. K.B.

Hugh Evans

"A thing of beauty is a joy forever; its loveliness increases." For those who delight in color, what is more superb than a Bougainvillea flaunting its glowing mantle on a sun-drenched roof or wall? A good many years ago I happened to be the chairman of the beautification committee of the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce, and thinking that the town was a little lacking in color contrasted with, for instance, Santa Barbara, Laguna or San Diego, some of us induced the proper authorities to designate the Bougainvillea as the floral emblem of that bright surfbreathing city. I am glad to say that there has been a considerable use made of this splendid plant, and now Santa Monica does not have to hang her head in shame any more.

The objections sometimes voiced that these plants grow too large are not really well taken; by judicious thinning and pruning when they are young, they can easily be kept in bounds, in fact many of the newer varieties are wholly admirable grown as shrubs, as they are in Florida and as standards as in Florida and Jamaica. The long heavy water shoots should be cut out at the point of origin, and the plants encouraged to make plenty of short new growth, to produce an abundance of flowering bracts.

In my recollection of Hawaii and Tahiti, their wealth of tropical foliage and the feast of color in the trees, shrubs and vines, the glory of the Bougainvillea stays in my memory after all the years. We invite you to come and see some of the new varieties: coral, pink and yellow. Plant them in the sun and feast your eyes on their beauty and their splendor.

PODACHAENIUM EMINENS . . . (Contin

feet in the first season, tapering off by the third season when it approaches 15 feet, though south of the border it is known to attain 25 feet!

An evergreen tree, Podachaenium produces in summer or fall generous clusters of yellow centered white daisies which give it the common name "DAISY TREE."



SUMMER Rx

PINK PARASOL

What visions of a Southern summer might the allusion to "Pink Mimosa" conjure up? Welcome respite from the sun's heat beneath the lacy canopy of ferny foliage; the faint fragrance of the myriad bundles of pink silken threads which frost the tree in mid-summer; the graceful silhouette of the flat horizontally-spreading head, with its almost "oriental" aspect?

Whatever charm and beauty this storied "Pink Mimosa" brings the South can be bestowed on your garden, too, in the form of Albizzia Julibrissin, which is the botanical name of this Leguminous tree. Native to Asia from Persia to Japan, and hardiest of the Albizzias, Julibrissin is happily at home in climates ranging from the Atlantic seaboard to the Pacific, from the humid South north to Washington, a characteristic of tolerance which well adapts it to the capricious climate of Southern California.

It is a light airy tree of rapid growth, not densely foliated but like a parasol filtering the sun's rays with a single layer of bipinnate leaves, surmounted through the summer by the showy pink stamenous flowers, which may enhance your garden, too! \$4.50 in five gallon cans.

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It is remarkably easy to grow in sun or half-shade, where it enjoys but does not demand more than average food and drink. For the tropical effect as a specimen or simply as a fast and effective filler at minimum expense we commend to your attention Podachaenium eminens. Large plants in four-gallon containers, \$4. M.E.

WESTWARD HO!

(Continued from front page)

low pea-like flowers on bushes—Spartium junceum, the long-blooming Spanish broom naturalized along the unwatered roadside. From about Saltair to Carmelina on both sides in parkings stand a few good old trees of Acacia decurrens, with the last remnants of spring bloom among the dark ferny foliage. On the left at 12416 Sunset is a splendid example of Eucalyptus leucoxylon, with white and beige bark, and in season pink or white flowers. A little farther, on same side, are three fragile-looking white-barked lemon gums—E. citriodora.

Then Bristol Circle which one can spot several blocks before he gets there by its silhouetted canopy of Eucalyptus corynocalyx. Outstanding among the other lower growing trees around this Circle are, on the left, a short row of especially handsome carobs (Ceretonia siliqua), known in the Bible as St. John's bread; then Eucalyptus rostrata with their long strings of pendulous branches (usually mistaken for the larger-growing Eucalyptus viminalis), and on the west side of Circle some spreading Atlas cedars, Cedrus atlanticas which are native to North Africa.

Rounding the bend to the right, one encounters good masses of pine — the twisted gray-green of Pinus halapensis, (from the Mediterranean coasts) and the tall straight pyramids of the Canary Island Pine (P. canariensis).

Just before Mandeville Canyon road on the right side, a hillside of shrubby, native California Walnut, elderberry (Sambucus), and Toyons (Photinia arbutifolia) is well-studded with Eucalypti; mostly rostrata and Lehmanni, the latter a handsome round-headed gum of small stature, roundish red-to-green leaves and interesting open conformation.

Rounding to the left in the bottom of the canyon one comes next to a most arresting screen-planting on the right of Acacia longifolia (latifolia to the trade); blue Plumbago capensis, dense, handsome and self-sufficient at all times of the year; and some fine native Sycamores, so much a part of California lowlands. P.E.C.

(Westward, ever westward, through the Riviera and the Palisades next month.)

Come ahead!

While the street department is beating a path by our door and the barricades rise at Sunset and at Montana, it may seem to require an adventurous spirit to gain the entrance of our nurseries! But here we are to welcome you and help you with your plant selection and garden problems as always. And while you slalom past the "detour" signs and roadblocks, think ahead to the broad, smooth boulevard that will greet us all in a few months! Our hours remain: Weekdays, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sundays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Adequate parking space within the grounds.